

Murray History Advisory Board
Minutes for April 28, 2009

Attendance: Jay Bollwinkel, Sherm Davies, Susan Wright

Excused: Lee Brinton, Kathy Romero, Richard Hansen, Steve Meyer

1. Minutes for March 24 were approved as written. New board members were welcomed.
2. Mary Ann reviewed the main board responsibilities as contained in the ordinance and projects related to each area including advising officials of historic resources, encouraging preservation and maintaining a local register, overseeing the museum, and educating the public about community history. She stressed that board meeting attendance was the primary responsibility of board members. Mary Ann explained that board members will deal mostly with our local register and explained the changes that were made over the past few years. Our register now contains mostly A buildings with a few select B buildings. We removed all C buildings and most B buildings. We have 5 buildings and 2 districts listed on the National Register. We will be taking a tour next month to buildings in the newly annexed area that would qualify for our register.
3. History month is scheduled for May and will include an award presentation to Jenny Lund on May 19, cemetery tours for school kids May 18-21, and a historic home tour of the Walton Home at 5191 S Wesley Road on May 23 at 11 am which will hopefully include a family cemetery located nearby.
4. Demo requests were reviewed for 750 W Tripp Lane and 4755 S Plum Street. We have exterior photos of both homes and interior photos of 750 W Tripp Lane. Board members felt this was adequate documentation before demolition. Mary Ann explained that our ordinance does not restrict demolition of buildings on the register, but it requires the board to review demos to determine if we want to encourage preservation or if further documentation is needed.
5. Board members reviewed a proposal by Community and Economic Development to alter the DHOD boundaries on State Street to just north of 4800 South. This would allow the BMW to expand. They provide a solid tax base to our city. Board members felt ok about this. They didn't feel that any historic building was critical except the BMW display building. However, the setback did help establish the feel of the downtown. Mary Ann noted that the boundary was set because we wanted the core area to extend further than just 4800 South to Vine and we selected a few key historic buildings to help maintain the historic feel along with the setback. A suggestion was made to consider this as a transition area so that the setback and type of building could be managed a little by the city and still allow the dealership expansion. Sherm wondered if this could be expanded to 4500 South. Jay acknowledged that it would be nice to have a setback that helps define the area. Susan had heard that the mortuary wants to build a new building with better parking. This building reflects the 1950s modern architecture but has been modified.

Jay said it would be nice to revitalize the downtown area. Mary Ann said a consulting firm is working on a master plan for this area and the city will be presenting these ideas in a few months for public input. There may be future changes to the DHOD area.

6. Our next meeting is scheduled for May 26. We will take a tour on that date. Jay asked if we could get a calendar of board meeting dates for the rest of the year. Mary Ann will send that out.